

## **Amendments to the Claims**

1-30 (Canceled)

31. (New) An information recording medium on and from which information can be recorded and reproduced while every error correction block of the information is used as a recording and reproducing unit, the information recording medium comprising:

a recording area for storing the information in unit of error correction block, the recording area having an address information and a first depth, wherein the information can be reproduced from the recording area; and

a pre-pit area extending between portions of the recording area and formed with pre-pits from which a signal can be reproduced, the pre-pit area having a second depth different from the first depth;

wherein a boundary between the pre-pit area and the recording area includes a portion which disagrees with the error correction block unit.

32. (New) A method of reproducing information from an information recording medium on and from which the information can be recorded and reproduced while every error correction block of the information is used as a recording and reproducing unit, the information recording medium comprising 1) a recording area for storing the information in unit of error correction block, the recording area having an address information and a first depth, wherein the information can be reproduced from the recording area; and 2) a pre-pit area extending between portions of the recording area and formed with pre-pits from which a signal can be reproduced, the pre-pit area having a second depth different from the first depth; wherein a boundary between the pre-pit area and the recording area

includes a portion which disagrees with the error correction block unit; the method comprising the steps of:

- accessing the information recording medium; and

- reproducing an error correction block of information which extends in both the recording area and the pre-pit area, and which extends over a related portion of the boundary between the recording area and the pre-pit area while accessing the information recording medium.

33. (New) A method of recording information on an information recording medium on and from which the information can be recorded and reproduced while every error correction block of the information is used as a recording and reproducing unit, the information recording medium comprising 1) a recording area for storing the information in unit of error correction block, the recording area having an address information and a first depth, wherein the information can be reproduced from the recording area; and 2) a pre-pit area extending between portions of the recording area and formed with pre-pits from which a signal can be reproduced, the pre-pit area having a second depth different from the first depth; wherein a boundary between the pre-pit area and the recording area includes a portion which disagrees with the error correction block unit; the method comprising the steps of:

- generating an error correction block information to be recorded; and

- accessing an error correction block corresponding region of the information recording medium which has a first portion occupied by a portion of the pre-pit area and a second portion occupied by a portion of the recording area, and recording the generated error correction block information on the second portion of the error correction block corresponding region in accordance with the address information on the recording area.